Initiated: 10/14/09
Reviewed/revised: 7/1/11
Revision: 1

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS STANDARD OF CARE TENSION PNEUMOTHORAX

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA	
Page 1 of 1	

History	Signs/Symptoms	Working Assessment
Patient sustained chest trauma	Visible or palpable chest trauma Severe respiratory distress Decreased or absent breath sounds on one side Hypotension Patient is pulseless Restlessness/agitation	Tension pneumothorax
	Increased resistance to ventilation Jugular vein distention	
	Tracheal deviation away from affected side	

